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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the RCE filed on February 6, 2009.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Larry S. Nixon (25, 640) on 3/24/2009. The examiners amendment was authorized to further define claims over prior art.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method to create within a computer system, an association between the appearance of a physical memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body and one or more stored files, said method comprising:

measuring physical parameters of said physical memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body;

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creating a memento object identity from the obtained measurements, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

storing said electronic identity in an identity store; and

associating said one or more stored files with said memento object identity.

2. (Currently Amended) A method to create within a computer system, an association between the appearance a physical memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body and information of the location of one or more files, said method comprising:

measuring physical parameters of said physical memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body;

creating a memento object identity from the obtained measurements, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured; and

storing said electronic identity in an identity store; and

associating said memento object identity with said information of the location of one or more files.

3. (Currently Amended) A method to retrieve one or more stored files within a computer system, by use of a stored memento object identity created from measuring physical parameters of a physical memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body, where said memento object identity is associated with said one or more stored files, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements

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without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured, said method comprising:

creating a subsequent identity for said memento object by again measuring said physical parameters of said memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human~~a~~ ~~user's~~ body;

searching for a match between said subsequent identity and said memento object identity;
and

upon the location of a match, retrieving said one or more stored files which are associated with said stored memento object identity.

4. (Currently Amended) A method to create within a computer system, an association between physical parameters of a physical memento object and one or more stored files for the purpose of retrieving and presenting said one or more stored files, said method comprising:

measuring physical parameters of said memento object which is not part of nor
representative of a part of a human~~a~~ ~~user's~~ body;

creating a memento object identity from the obtained measurements, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

storing said memento object identity in an identity store;

associating within said computer system, said stored file with said memento object identity;

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subsequently measuring said physical parameters of said memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body;

creating a subsequent identity for said memento object using subsequent measurement data obtained from said subsequent measurement;

searching in said identity store for a match with said subsequent identity;

upon the location of a match, retrieving said one or more stored files; and

presenting said retrieved file to a user.

9. (Currently Amended) Apparatus to create within a computer system, an association between the appearance a physical memento object and one or more stored files, said apparatus comprising:

measuring means by which physical parameters of said memento object are measured which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body

processing means to create a memento object identity from measurement data obtained by said measuring means, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

an identity store to store said memento object identity;

a file store to store said one or more stored files; and

means to associate said memento object identity and said one or more stored files.

10. (Currently Amended) Apparatus to create within a computer system, an association between the appearance a physical memento object and information of the location of one or more files, said apparatus comprising:

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measuring means by which physical parameters of said memento object are measured without measuring separately from any part of nor anything representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body;

processing means to create a memento object identity from measurement data obtained by said measuring means, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

an identity store to store said memento object identity;

a location information store to store said file location information; and

means to associate said memento object identity and said file location information.

11. (Currently Amended) Apparatus to retrieve within a computer system, one or more stored files by use of a memento object identity created from measuring physical parameters of a physical memento object, where said memento object identity is associated with said one or more stored files, said apparatus comprising:

measuring means by which physical parameters of said memento object are measured separately from any part of nor representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body;

means to create a subsequent identity for said memento object from measurement data obtained from said measuring means, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

means to search for a match for said subsequent identity with said memento object identity; and

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means to retrieve said one or more stored files, based on the identification of a match or a partial match between said subsequent identity and said memento object identity.

12. (Currently Amended) Apparatus to create within a computer system, an association between a physical memento object and a stored file for the purpose of retrieving and presenting said stored file, said apparatus comprising:

measuring means by which physical parameters of said memento object are measured separately from any part of nor representative of a part of a human~~user's~~ body on the first and subsequent occasions;

processing means to create a memento object identity and a subsequent identity from measurement data obtained from said measuring means, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

an identity store to store said memento object identity;

a file store to store said files;

means to associate said memento object identity and said files;

searching means to find a match with said subsequent identity in said identity store;

means to retrieve files associated with said memento object identity, based on the identification of a match or a partial match between said subsequent identity and said memento object identity; and

presentation means by which said retrieved files are presented to a user.

13. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said processing means performs the tasks of:

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creating a memento object identity and/or subsequent identity;
associating said memento object identity with said one or more files;
searching to find a match with said subsequent identity; and/or
retrieving said one or more stored files.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-18 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claims 1, 5-8, and 18, the prior art or record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest at least a method to create, an association between the appearance of a physical memento object and one or more stored files, said method comprising:

measuring physical parameters of said physical memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human-body;

creating a memento object identity from the obtained measurements, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured; and

associating said one or more stored files with said memento object identity.

With respect to claim 2, the prior art or record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest at least a method to create, an association between the appearance a physical memento object and information of the location of one or more files, said method comprising:

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measuring physical parameters of said physical memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human-body;

creating a memento object identity from the obtained measurements, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured; and

associating said memento object identity with said information of the location of one or more files.

With respect to claims 3 & 17, the prior art or record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest at least a method to retrieve one or more stored files, by use of a stored memento object identity created from measuring physical parameters of a physical memento object, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured, said method comprising:

creating a subsequent identity for said memento object by again measuring said physical parameters of said memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human body;

searching for a match between said subsequent identity and said memento object identity; and

upon the location of a match, retrieving said one or more stored files which are associated with said stored memento object identity.

With respect to claim 4, the prior art or record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest at least a method to create an association between physical parameters of a

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physical memento object and one or more stored files, said method comprising:

measuring physical parameters of said memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human body;

creating a memento object identity from the obtained measurements, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

associating within said computer system, said stored file with said memento object identity;

subsequently measuring said physical parameters of said memento object which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human-body;

creating a subsequent identity for said memento object using subsequent measurement data obtained from said subsequent measurement;

searching in said identity store for a match with said subsequent identity; and

upon the location of a match, retrieving said one or more stored files.

With respect to claims 9 and 13-16, the prior art or record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest at least apparatus to create an association between the appearance a physical memento object and one or more stored files, said apparatus comprising:

measuring means by which physical parameters of said memento object are measured which is not part of nor representative of a part of a human body;

processing means to create a memento object identity from measurement data obtained by said measuring means, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

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a file store to store said one or more stored files; and

means to associate said memento object identity and said one or more stored files.

With respect to claim 10, the prior art or record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest at least apparatus to create an association between the appearance a physical memento object and information of the location of one or more files, said apparatus comprising:

measuring means by which physical parameters of said memento object are measured without measuring any part of nor anything representative of a part of a human body;

processing means to create a memento object identity from measurement data obtained by said measuring means, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

a location information store to store said file location information; and

means to associate said memento object identity and said file location information.

With respect to claim 11, the prior art or record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest at least apparatus to retrieve one or more stored files by use of a memento object identity created from measuring physical parameters of a physical memento object, where said memento object identity is associated with said one or more stored files, said apparatus comprising:

measuring means by which physical parameters of said memento object are measured separately from any part of nor representative of a part of a human body;

means to create a subsequent identity for said memento object from measurement data obtained from said measuring means, which memento object identity is based on consistent and

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repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

means to search for a match for said subsequent identity with said memento object identity; and

means to retrieve said one or more stored files, based on the identification of a match or a partial match between said subsequent identity and said memento object identity.

With respect to claim 12, the prior art or record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest at least apparatus to create, an association between a physical memento object and a stored file, said apparatus comprising:

measuring means by which physical parameters of said memento object are measured separately from any part of nor representative of a part of a human body on the first and subsequent occasions;

processing means to create a memento object identity and a subsequent identity from measurement data obtained from said measuring means, which memento object identity is based on consistent and repeatable measurements without requiring recognition of specific elements of the object being measured;

a file store to store said files;

means to associate said memento object identity and said files; and

searching means to find a match with said subsequent identity in said identity store;

means to retrieve files associated with said memento object identity, based on the identification of a match or a partial match between said subsequent identity and said memento object identity.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TAE W. KIM whose telephone number is (571)272-5971. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steve S. Paik can be reached on 571-272-2404. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Tae W Kim/
Examiner, Art Unit 2887

/Karl D Frech/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2887